

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DEAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 OMB-01
EB-08 AID-05 AGRE-00 /093 W
-----221118Z 063289 /10

R 220930Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3358
INFO CINCPAC
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
DEA BANGKOK
AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
AMCONSUL MANDALAY
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 RANGOON 1130

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SNAR, EAGR, BM, CH, GW, BU
SUBJ: JOINT WEEKA #15, APRIL 13-23

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1. PRESIDENT TO VISIT CHINA (UNC)
BURMESE NEWSPAPERS HAVE ANNOUNCED THAT PRESIDENT
AND MRS. NE WIN WILL VISIT CHINA IN THE NEAR FUTURE.
IT IS EXPECTED THAT THEY WILL DEPART BEFORE THE END

OF THE MONTH. THIS CONFIRMS EARLIER REPORTS REGARDING THE PLANNED TRIP (WEEKA #13, ITEM 1).

COMMENT: (CONF) FROM ALL INDICATIONS, IT APPEARS THAT NE WIN VIEWS THE TRIP AS MORE THAN A MERE GOODWILL GESTURE. WHILE AWARE OF THE POLITICAL AND OTHER CONSTRAINTS OPERATING ON PEKING, NE WIN PROBABLY FEELS IT IS AT LEAST POSSIBLE THAT HIS VISIT MIGHT CATALYZE MOVEMENT BY PRC LEADERS TOWARD SIGNIFICANT CURTAILMENT OF PRC SUPPORT FOR THE BCP INSURGENCY IN BURMA. ECONOMIC ISSUES WILL ALSO BE DISCUSSED.

2. GUB DELEGATION TO ADB ANNUAL MEETING (UNC)

A GUB DELEGATION LED BY DEPUTY MINISTER FOR PLANNING AND FINANCE DR. MAUNG SHEIN DEPARTED APRIL 19 TO ATTEND THE TENTH ANNUAL ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK MEETING AT MANILA. OTHER MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION INCLUDE U TUN WAI, MEMBER OF THE FINANCE AND PLANNING AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE BSPP CENTRAL COMMITTEE, AND U BA PE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE FOREIGN ECONOMIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT, MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND FINANCE. FOLLOWING THE ADB MEETING, DR. MAUNG SHEIN WILL PROCEED TO WASHINGTON FOR THE INTERIM MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND.

COMMENT: MAUNG SHEIN IS EXPECTED TO EXPLAIN THE RECENT CABINET CHANGES, PARTICULARLY THE REMOVAL OF DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER U LWIN, TO THE IFI'S, AND TO CLARIFY THE GUB'S ECONOMIC POLICY IN THE LIGHT OF THESE CHANGES.

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3. TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH FRG (UNC)

GUB AND FRG OFFICIALS SIGNED A TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT ON APRIL 19. THE AGREEMENT PROVIDES FRG ASSISTANCE TO ESTABLISH AN INDUSTRIAL TRAINING CENTER FOR VOCATIONAL INSTRUCTION. THE FRG WILL PROVIDE DM 14,604,000 WHICH IS TO COVER ALL COSTS OF THE CENTER. IN ADDITION, THE FRG WILL SEND SPECIALISTS TO SERVE AT THE CENTER AND WILL PROVIDE FURTHER TRAINING IN WEST GERMANY FOR UP TO SIX BURMESE NATIONALS.

4. BULGARIAN DELEGATION VISITS BURMA (UNC)

A TWO-MAN DELEGATION OF THE BULGARIAN AGRARIAN PARTY CONSISTING OF ANGEL DIMITROV, SECRETARY OF THE PARTY'S STANDING COMMITTEE, AND VICTOR VULKOV, DEPUTY HEAD OF THE PARTY'S INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT, ARRIVED IN RANGOON ON APRIL 21. OFFICIALS OF THE BURMA SOCIALIST PROGRAM PARTY (BSPP) MET THE DELEGATES, AND THE SECRETARY OF THE BSPP INTERNATIONAL AND FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE HOSTED

A DINNER IN THEIR HONOR THE EVENING OF APRIL 21.

COMMENT: (LOU) THE BURMESE PRESS CONTINUED THE PRECEDENT SET WITH THE RECENT VISIT OF AN SED DELEGATION (WEEK #13, ITEM 2) BY REFERRING TO THE VISITORS AS "COMRADE." APPARENTLY THE BSPP IS SEEKING A MORE FRATERNAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE EAST EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES.

5. AGRICULTURAL SECTOR TARGETS (UNC)

NET AGRICULTURAL OUTPUT FOR 1977/78 IS SCHEDULED TO INCREASE BY 6.3 PERCENT OVER THE PAST FISCAL YEAR. ACCORDING TO AGRICULTURAL OFFICIALS IF THIS INCREASE CAN BE ATTAINED, THE AVERAGE ANNUAL INCREASE FOR THE PRESENT FOUR-YEAR PLAN (1973/74 - 1977/48) WILL REACH 4.5 PERCENT A FIGURE THEY ADMIT IS LOWER THAN ORIGINAL PLAN TARGETS. FOR THE COMING FOUR-YEAR PLAN BEGINNING IN 1978/79, THE AVERAGE YEARLY INCREASE IS TO BE BETWEEN 5.5 AND 6 PERCENT. ABOUT K2,990 (\$446) MILLION IS TO BE INVESTED IN AGRICULTURE DURING THE COMING FOUR-YEAR PLAN PERIOD.

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TURE DURING THE COMING FOUR-YEAR PLAN PERIOD.

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-----221117Z 063884 /10

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FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3359

INFO CINCPAC

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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6. VITAL STATISTICS (UNC)

ACCORDING TO RECENTLY RELEASED FIGURES, THERE ARE 205,209 FOREIGN NATIONAL RESIDING IN BURMA. THESE INCLUDE 58,469 INDIANS, 11,699 PAKISTANIS, 114,519 CHINESE AND 20,522 OTHER NATIONALS. IT IS ALSO ESTIMATED THAT BURMA'S LABOR FORCE STANDS AT ABOUT 12.38 MILLION WITH NEARLY 67 PERCENT IN THE AGRICULTURAL/FISHING SECTOR, 7.1 PERCENT IN THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR AND 9.3 PERCENT IN TRADE.

7. NARCOTICS - ARRESTS AND SEIZURES (UNC)

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THE VERNACULAR PRESS HAS HIGHLIGHTED SEVERAL RECENT NARCOTICS BUSTS. IN TWO SEPARATE ACTIONS IN HSIPAW, CUSTOMS AND LOCAL OFFICIALS SEIZED A TOTAL OF 115 KILOGRAMS OF RAW OPIUM. THREE SUSPECTS WERE ARRESTED. A WARD PEOPLE'S COUNCIL RAID IN MANDALAY LED TO THE SEIZURE OF NEARLY TWO KILOGRAMS OF HEROIN; ONE PERSON WAS ARRESTED. POLICE IN MYITKYINA ROUNDED UP TWO TRAFFICKERS IN POSSESSION OF 160 GRAMS OF HEROIN NUMBER 4. IN RANGOON FOUR PUSHERS WERE ARRESTED WHEN POLICE DISCOVERED THEM ATTEMPTING TO SELL 15 FIVE GRAM BOTTLES OF NUMBER 4.
OSBORN

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